Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

U.S. Serial No.: 10/635,163

Group Art Unit: 3682

Page 2 of 12

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 15 as follows:

The roller holding unit 70 rotatably holds the auxiliary roller 68 by taking the axis [[690]] 680 of the auxiliary roller 68 as a center. Further, the roller holding unit 70 rotatably holds the auxiliary roller 68 by taking the toothed driving pulley 64 as an axis so that the auxiliary roller 68 can be displaced in a direction where the auxiliary roller 68 applies a tension to the toothed belt 66.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 26 as follows:

Further, since the roller holding unit 70 is urged by the urging member 72, the auxiliary roller 68 is displaced in a direction where it provides the tension to the toothed belt 66. According to this, the even in case the toothed belt 66 becomes loose with the passage of time, it is prevented for the toothed belt 66 to be bent and the teeth of the toothed belt 66 and the auxiliary roller 68 engage reliably with each other because the auxiliary roller 68 provides the tension to the toothed belt 66. In this case, since the auxiliary roller 68 urged by the urging member [[92]] 72 provides the tension to the toothed belt 66, there is not needed to provide independent tensioner, and the required number of elements can be reduced. Further, according to the present embodiment, the pair of outer and inner holding plates 701 and 702 of the roller holding unit 70 hold the toothed belt 66, which is held in a gap between the auxiliary roller 68 and the toothed driving pulley 64, between them in the axial

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

U.S. Serial No.: 10/635,163

Group Art Unit: 3682

Page 3 of 12

direction of the toothed driving pulley 64. Accordingly, the toothed belt 66 held

between the auxiliary roller 68 and the toothed driving pulley 64 can be prevented

from being slipped off from the toothed driving pulley 64 in its axial direction.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 30 as follows:

In addition, since the cut-in portion for the driving pulley 920 and the cut-in

portion for the auxiliary roller 940 are cut in to the direction substantially

perpendicular to the line [[liking]] linking the center axes of the toothed driving pulley

64 and the auxiliary roller 68 each other, the distance between the toothed driving

pulley 64 and the auxiliary roller 68 can be maintained almost constantly, though the

end 929 of the cut-in portion for the driving pulley 920 and the end 949 of the cut-in

portion for the auxiliary roller 940 are worn away.